THE GAS MOVEMENT IN THE CITY is still fermenting, and will, doubtless, ere long, carry all before it. At the wardmotes, as anticipated, zeal in this movement was *the* test, and pledges, declarations, and determinations to obtain a cheap supply of good gas to the City one way or other were the order of the day. A difference of opinion as to the most practical and speedy mode of doing so arose amongst the members of the City Sewers Commission, though all professed an equal zeal in the cause; and ultimately it was resolved, as a simpler, speedier, and more practicable plan, to revert to the 'first idea,' which did not contemplate either the purchase of existing works or the erection of new, but confined itself to the power to purchase, admit, or lay down pipes, and contract with existing or other companies for a supply of pure gas at not more than 4s. per 1,000 cubic feet to the consumers. Thus a day of grace is still left open to the existing companies, which we earnestly hope there may be no reason to regret. But failing them, another formal offer has been already made (by Messrs. Alfred Joy and Co., of the Phœnix Foundry, Clerkenwell) to supply the citizens direct with the purest and best gas for twenty one years at 3s. 6d., pipes inclusive, or with a further reduction should the commissioners supply these themselves. Proper security for the due fulfilment of the contract was also offered. Had the determination to erect works and apply surplus profits to public improvements, as so fully carried out at Manchester, been persevered with, it is perhaps questionable whether the proposed bill, even in its more enlarged form, would have been sufficient, and at all events there would have been the hazard, nay, probably the certainty, of a prolonged and inveterate parliamentary conflict with powerful companies. Of course we do not mean to say that the citizens of London are not able to cope with or put down such monopolies; we only allude to the amount of the forces recently proposed to be put in action for such an uncompromising and direct suppression of them.

IMPROVEMENT OF WEST-END OF LONDON.—You are always ready to mend our ways, and, therefore, I take leave to mention that there is a narrow inconvenient street, yclept "Whitcomb;" it leads from Pall-mall East to Coventry-street, and all the west-end 'busses and carriages seem to delight to run up and down it, although it is only wide enough for one carriage at a time, and much money has been spent upon it to make it safe for foot passengers. There is another street parallel to it, called St. Martin's-street, leading into Leicester-square, nearly in a line with the west end of it, and directly into the new street at the top. Now, Sir, if about two houses were removed in Pall-mall East, adjoining the National Gallery, there would be a clear way from Trafalgar-square, and the west end of the Gallery would be free of adjoining buildings. A little alteration at the top of St. Martin's-street would not hurt the morality of that neighbourhood.

L.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"*Stained Oak.*"—A correspondent wishes to know "whether there are any means of getting *stained oak* to its *originally white* colour, by acids or otherwise."

"*Received.*"—"An Old Mason," "Observer," "W. B.," "An Associate," "H." (very desirable though not absolutely indispensable), "Q.," "Tartan," "H. H. M." (Liverpool), "W. H." (will see, on reflection, that if we gave such statements on such authority our opinion would soon go for nothing), "J. E. G." (safe), "J. G." (Hanwell), "J. J. L." (*construction* of prisons is, of course, quite within our province, and we shall be glad to receive the promised remarks. Our correspondent's first letter spoke only of *discipline*), H. H. P. (statement was not enclosed), "J. W.," "Subscriber" (Fleetwood), "C. and C.," "C. D.," "C. C." (we are unable to go into the details asked for), "T. J. D." (thanks), "B. and B. (Liverpool), "P. D." (we decline offering an opinion), "B. R.," "House Drainage considered as to its defects," by T. W. Montague Marriot, barrister-at-law. London: Ollivier, 15 pp. "An Introduction to Heraldry," by Hugh Clark, 14th edition, enlarged. London: Washbourne, New Bridge-street. "The Index," a weekly repertory of results of progress. No. 1. "The London Drainage Plan," by J. Morewood. E. Wilson, 6 pp.

"*Books, Prices, and Addresses.*"—We have not time to point out books or find addresses.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.
ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—A Lecture on the popular subject of the Electric Light, by Dr. Bachhoffner, on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings. Popular Lectures on Chemistry, with brilliant experiments, by Dr. Ryan daily, and on the evenings of Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. [illegible] Series of Dissolving Views in Mexico and Switzerland, with [illegible] Children's Phantasmagoria, [illegible] Mornings and Evenings. The [illegible] o'Clock daily. New Chromatrope. Diver and Diving-Bell. Working Models explained. Music directed by Dr. Wallis.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, half-price.

ABERDEEN GRANITE, ROCKHILL PAVING, &c.—ALEXANDER NICHOLSON, 12, Little Tower-street, London.—Agent for Rosie Rockhill Quarries; A. and W. Nicol, Granite Merchants, Aberdeen; the Aberdeen Lime Company, Granite Merchants, Aberdeen; [illegible] Polished Granite Works, Aberdeen; the Hern Granite Quarries, &c. &c.

YORK STONE.—Buy your York Paving Slabs and Landings, your Bramley Fall, Portland, Park Spring, and Harehill Block Stones, at the VICTORIA STONE WHARF, ISLE OF DOGS, opposite the Greenwich Hospital.
THE CHEAPEST WHARF IN LONDON FOR CASH.
Stone delivered to any wharf in the river in large or small quantities.

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ANSTON STONE, used for Building the New Houses of Parliament.—W. WRIGHT and Co. beg to inform Architects, Engineers, Builders, and others, the Anston Stone can be supplied in any quantity on the shortest notice. This valuable stone, so celebrated for its durability, colour, and texture, is well known, having been selected in preference to all others, by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, for building the New Houses of Parliament. It is very superior for Monuments, Tombs, &c. &c.
W. Wright and Co. have made arrangements to have a stock always on hand at Brine's Marble and Stone Wharf, Horseferry-road, Maidstone, [illegible]—Any further information can be obtained on application to W. WRIGHT and Co., Anston, near Sheffield; or to T. SHARP, their Sole Agent in London, [illegible] Burton-crescent.

CAEN STONE, from the first Quarries of Allemagne. Depôt at the Whitby and Scotch Wharf, 24, Fore-street, Limehouse.
P. FOUCARD, quai des Abattoirs Caen (propriétaire des Carrières à Allemagne), begs leave to inform Builders, Architects, and others, that he has, on the above-mentioned wharf, [illegible] feet of the best stone ready to meet the demands of purchasers.—Contracts taken for any quantities.
Orders received by Mr. [illegible], at [illegible], Stoney-street, Borough Market.—Cargoes shipped to order, from Caen, to any port.

CAEN STONE.—Original Sufferance Depôt, Norway Wharf, Greenwich.—W. TUCKWELL, Caen Stone Quarry Proprietor and Importer, begs to invite the attention of Architects, Surveyors, Builders, and others to the stock of
DRY SEASONED CAEN STONE
on his Wharf, comprising [illegible] feet cube, which has been selected with judicious care, and is fit for immediate use. Shipments made to any port direct from his quarries at Caen.
N.B. Orders received at the wharf as above; also at the offices of Mr. R. A. WITHALL, Surveyor, [illegible], Cheapside, where further information and samples may be obtained.

CAEN and AUBIGNY STONE.—LUARD, BEEDHAM, and Co., Proprietors of extensive Quarries of best Caen Stone at Allemagne, and Aubigny Quarries, near Falaise, Normandy, beg respectfully to invite attention of Archæologists, Architects, Engineers, Surveyors, Builders, and others to the above. Caen Stone is too well known to need comment. Aubigny Stone, from its fineness of grain, hardness of texture, beauty of colour, freedom from vents, shell, and great durability, ranks amongst the first for building and engineering purposes, hall paving, staircases, sculpture, tombs, cemetery works, and general masonry. L. B. and Co. have for many years supplied large quantities to various parts of the continent for public works, light-houses, &c., under the patronage of the Royal Engineers. Orders executed to all parts of the United Kingdom with despatch direct from the quarries. A large stock of seasoned Caen and Aubigny Stone always on hand, at Caen Sufferance Wharf, Rotherhithe, where samples and information may be obtained.—Offices, 18, Southwark-square, Southwark-bridge-road, Southwark.

SAMUEL CUNDY, Mason and Builder, PIMLICO MARBLE and STONE WORKS, Belgrave Wharf, Pimlico, begs to inform Architects and the Public that MASONS' WORK, in all its branches, is executed on the most reasonable terms, in such manner as must meet the views of his Patrons.
GOTHIC WINDOWS and the more elaborate Works produced at a reduced cost, on a system that combines economy with the required accuracy and truthfulness.
FONTS from [illegible] upwards.
MONUMENTS and TOMBS in great variety of design.
The most varied Assortment of ORNAMENTAL, PLAIN, and ENCAUSTIC TILES, in Town, on view.
Stone-box Chimney-pieces, from .... 12s.
Vein-Marble " " .... 60s.
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Patronised by her Majesty, Prince Albert, the Duke of Wellington, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Duchess of Grafton, the Marquis of Westminster, the Marquis of Londonderry, the Earl of [illegible], the Earl of Dartmouth, the Earl of [illegible], the [illegible] of Wilberforce, the Countess Wilton, Viscount Combermere, Lord Robert Grosvenor, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Hon. Col. Douglas Pennant, Sir Assheton Smith, Col. Challoner, Sir J. Eardley, Sir Francis Lemley, Sir Ralph Howard, the Hon. Capt. Duncombe, Sir W. Gordon, the Hon. C. Shaw Lefevre, and numerous others of the nobility and gentry of this and other countries; by the most eminent architects and surveyors, the engineers and directors of the principal lines of railway, the Board of Public Works, and by the public generally.

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